

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:GGBROWN:PM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

S E C R E T STATE 081241

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EG

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT: ENCOURAGING DONOR PARTICI-
PATION

REF: CAIRO 3971

1. WE APPRECIATE AND LAUD EMBASSY'S WELL THOUGHT-OUT IDEA
IN REFTTEL ON EXPANDING THE DONOR COUNTRY SUPPORT FOR EGYPT.
WE AGREE THAT SUCH BROADER PARTICIPATION COULD PROVIDE
STRONG PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST FOR SADAT. HOWEVER, NEITHER WE
NOR EGYPTIANS SHOULD BE UNDER ILLUSION THAT LARGE SUMS OF
MONEY WILL RESULT FROM THIS EXERCISE.

2. WE BELIEVE EFFORT TO ENLIST THIS SUPPORT WILL BE MORE
PROMISING IF UNDERTAKEN AFTER GOE AND IMF REACH STABILIZA-
TION AGREEMENT AND IT IS RATIFIED BY THE IMF BOARD. BI-
LATERAL COMMITMENTS ALSO WOULD PROVIDE SADAT WITH SOME
SYMBOLIC INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR TAKING THESE REFORM
STEPS.

3. THIS STRATEGY SUGGESTS JOINT GOE-USG PLANNING OF
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APPROACHES TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS DURING APRIL AND PROMPT,

SIMULTANEOUS LAUNCHING OF CAMPAIGN AFTER IMF BOARD
ACTS IN MAY.

4. IN PROCEEDING WITH EXPANDED PROGRAM, WE BELIEVE THAT
EGYPTIANS MUST TAKE THE INITIATIVE. THIS COULD BE DONE
BY FAHMY WITH AMBASSADORS IN CAIRO OR BY EGYPTIAN EM-
BASSIES WITH COMMUNICATIONS FROM SADAT OR FAHMY. USG
WOULD THEN FOLLOW UP THESE CONTACTS.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENTS ON THE ABOVE. IN
THE MEANTIME, THE DEPARTMENT WILL ATTEMPT ASSESS PRELIMI-
NARY EMBASSY SUGGESTIONS ON THE TYPES OF AID THAT WOULD
BE MOST USEFUL FOR EGYPTIANS TO REQUEST. WE WILL PROVIDE
RESPONSE WITHIN THE WEEK.

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